

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An apparatus in an infuser for a liquid food product, of the type which includes a pressure vessel (1) with an inlet (2) for the product located in its upper region and an outlet (6) for the product located in its lower region, said product inlet
5 (2) being disposed to divide the product entering into the pressure vessel (1) into small droplets, and the infuser also including an inlet for steam (8) disposed such that steam enters into the upper region (1) of the pressure vessel through a concentric distribution chamber (9), **characterised in that** the concentric distribution chamber
10 (9) is defined by the wall (10) of the pressure vessel (1), a guide plate (11) and at least one foraminated plate (12).
2. The apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, **characterised in that** the apparatus includes two foraminated plates (12) which are sealingly secured against the wall
15 (10) of the pressure vessel (1) and against the guide plate (11).
3. The apparatus as claimed in Claim 2, **characterised in that** the holes (14) of the plates (12) have a diameter of 1-10 mm.
- 20 4. The apparatus as claimed in Claim 3, **characterised in that** the holes have a diameter of 2-5 mm.
5. The apparatus as claimed in any of Claims 3 or 4, **characterised in that** the guide plate (11) has an extent below the foraminated plates (12) which at least
25 corresponds to the diameter of the holes (14) multiplied by ten.
6. The apparatus as claimed in any of Claims 3 or 4, **characterised in that** the guide plate (11) has an extent below the foraminated plates (12) which is 50-60 mm.
- 30 7. The apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, **characterised in that** the concentric distribution chamber (9) is designed so that the steam, on entering the pressure vessel (1), is downwardly directed and is at a speed of < 2 m/sec.

8. The apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, **characterised in that** the apparatus includes two steam inlets (8) which are diametrically placed and radially disposed.